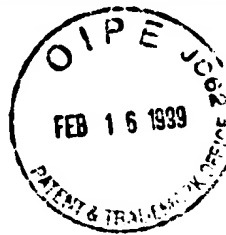


DOCKET NO.: RFMC-0078



PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

R. Lee Roberts, Mark Kevin Addison,
Andrew Scott Taylor

Serial No.: 08/935,365

Group Art Unit: 1723

Filed: September 22, 1997

Examiner: M. OCAMPO

For: LOW PROFILE EXTRUDED UNDERDRAIN

I, William A. Richter, Registration No. 144,874
certify that this correspondence is being
deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as First
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Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington,
D.C. 20231.

On February 16, 1999

William A. Richter Registration No. 144,874

Assistant Commissioner
for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

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GROUP 1723

RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

The Examiner has stated that the application contains claims directed to the following inventions: Group I, claims 1 and 18, drawn to an underdrain block member; Group II, claims 8 and 16, drawn to a filtration system comprising a filter media bed and an underdrain block member; Group III, claim 20, drawn to a process or method for making an underdrain block; Group IV, claim 24, drawn to a method of using a product for filtering such that of an underdrain block in a filtration system which comprises a filter basin; Group V, claims 26 and 27, drawn to methods of

using a product for improving flow distribution such that of in an underdrain block.

In addition, the Examiner has stated that the claims are directed to the following patentably distinct species: claims 1-7, 18-19 and 20-23 correspond to species 1; and claims 8-17 and 24-27 correspond to species 2.

In response, Applicant elects the invention of Group I, claims 1-7, 18 and 19, all of which correspond to species 1.

Applicant respectfully requests that claims 1-7, 18 and 19, be allowed at this time.

Respectfully submitted,



William R. Richter
Registration No. P43,879

Date: February 12, 1999

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